

In The Works



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Message from the Director's Office

By Jason Cosby, P.E., Assistant Director



Jason Cosby, P.E.

Transportation System Goals and Strategies for the City of San Antonio

This is an exciting time for the 7th largest City in the United States, especially within our Transportation System. Transportation mobility and public safety rank high among the many priorities that compete for the City's attention and resources. We developed these strategies and goals to address our system.

Our Six Transportation Strategies includes:

1. Strength Through Partnership
2. Proactive Planning
3. Visible/Effective Mobility Improvements
4. Maximum Use of Existing Infrastructure
5. New Transportation Financing
6. Implementation of Smart Development

neighborhoods realistic choices that will yield predictable benefits without creating secondary issues that might require remediation later. This is why we take a look at the entire system as a whole and not neighborhood by neighborhood.

Our Four Transportation Goals are to:

1. Create a plan that compliments the transportation system plan of other partners
2. Integrate transportation elements to achieve operability, efficiency, and effectiveness for users of all transportation modes.
3. Utilize existing resources to the maximum extent possible, then use new resources
4. Encourage a common understanding of the transportation environment and its challenges

We carefully evaluate different systems and new technology, such as Intelligent Transportation Systems, to help us move forward. ITS integration will help us see traffic trouble spots in real time, notify the appropriate agencies and advise motorists. Integration with other city centers and systems will provide expanded, coordinated coverage of area roadways, traffic systems and additional decision-making data to responders and managers, and deliver expanded guidance to motorists on traffic delays and alternate routes.

We achieved some of these strategies and goals by the implementation of our Neighborhood Mobility Safety Initiative. The Public Works traffic engineering staff has developed a menu of traffic calming features to help us promote mobility and safety in neighborhoods throughout the City. We believe it is important to give

Funding and implementation of these improvements are provided through potential federal highway earmarks for various aspects of ITS deployment and integration. Also, check out Joe Marsilio's article on the Advanced Transportation District for another funding option. If all these come through, in the next five years we will bring our City's ITS Architecture into the 21st century!

Ethics Training Mandatory

The Ethics Code now requires that each department provide all employees with Ethics Code training at least once every other calendar year. The training initiative mentioned above fulfills this requirement. In addition, the Office of the City Attorney provides Ethics Code Training to any department upon request.

Monica Ramos



This June our Special Projects Officer, Monica Ramos, was re-appointed to the American Public Works Association/Asociacion de Municipios de Mexico (APWA/AMMAC) Partnership Task Force for 2006-2007.

As a member of the APWA/AMMAC Task Force, Monica assists in providing oversight and implementation of the APWA/AMMA partnership between APWA and the Asociacion de Municipios de Mexico. The goal of the APWA/AMMAC Task Force is to encourage the exchange of information between the two countries to include information on education, training, technology and management practices. Additionally, this Task Force works to secure and implement grants and to exchange complimentary booth space at respective national conferences.

Our organization will see great benefit in Monica's service to the American Public Works Association, especially at next year's APWA Congress that will be held in San Antonio.

Do you want to support APWA? Here is how to become a member.



APWA Announces Special \$50 Membership for First-Time Members

APWA is offering a \$50 one-year Individual membership to industry professionals who have never been an APWA national association member. That's a \$76 savings. OR double your savings with a two-year membership for \$100. Join by October 1st and save!

Ernest Serna

Operating the Telehandler

Transporting Bald Cypress in Salado Creek.



Efrain Villanueva

Lorenzo Washington

Dan Garcia

Planting Bald Cypress trees in Salado Creek.



Louis Escamilla

José Avila

Watering the Bald Cypress trees in Salado Creek.



FEEDBACK

This is YOUR newsletter! What would you like to see? What kind of articles are you interested in? Got an interesting story to tell? Send your articles and pictures today! Send all articles, comments, and suggestions to

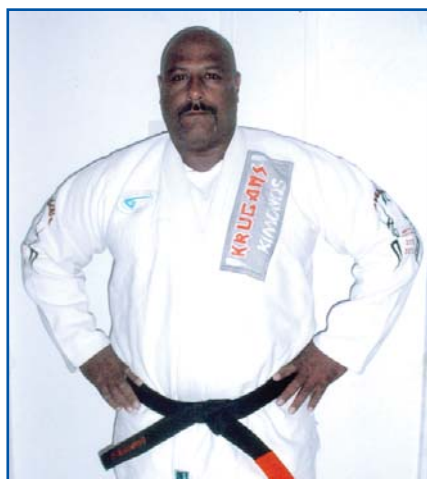
mramos@sanantonio.gov or
by phone at 207-8026.

Congratulations

Hard at Work

Lorenzo Washington Storm Water Operations Division

By Lisa McKenzie, Special Projects Officer



Leaving the city life of California for the country living of a small town near San Antonio, Lorenzo Washington joined the Public Works Department a couple of years ago to work for the Storm Water Operations Division's natural waterway crew. This specially trained group removes flood debris in creeks, rivers and natural lows to ensure proper flood conveyance. They pull out everything from the ordinary: tree limbs, trash, vines to the extraordinary: cars, propane tanks and aluminum sheds. Each project site tends to pose new challenges

as they are limited to the heavy equipment that can be used inside these natural areas.

While working for the Storm Water Division, he's participated in charitable campaign fundraisers through playing basketball and softball, picked up trash in Leon Creek for the Basura Bash and painted over graffiti alongside volunteers for Graffiti Wipeout Volunteer Day.

Married to his wife Stephanie for 12 years, Lorenzo has two daughters ages eight and eleven. They enjoy country living, caring for their dog and 6 horses. His youngest daughter is proficient in tae-kwon-do, taking after her father who is a second-degree black belt.

Having taught tae-kwon-do and jujitsu for 15 years, his training has enabled him to compete in several Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) competitions. The most recent, last month, the Gracie Open was held in Long Beach, CA. Lorenzo won 2nd place in the 5-day competition, winning 4 out of 5 matches.

In addition to staying in shape, he also likes to cook! He studied under the infamous Cajun humorist, author of seven cookbooks, Justin Wilson (of Lay's Potato chip commercial fame), where he picked up some great ideas for southern cooking (see one of Lorenzo's recipes below). In fact, it was his secret chili recipe that earned him and his two teammates first place in the Public Works Chili Cook-Off that was held in May at Camargo Park. "If I can taste it, I can cook it," professes Washington, whose specialty is seafood. Hmm...a Public Works Chili/Seafood Cook-Off could be in the future!



First Place Chili Cook-Off

(left to right) Lorenzo Washington, Mario Ponce, and Efrain Villanueva

Renzo's Jambalaya Pasta

3 c. vegetable stock
1 pkg. spiral pasta noodles
1 tsp. cayenne pepper
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. pepper
1 tsp. paprika
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. onion powder
1 spring oregano
1 spring thyme
3 bay leaves

1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 tsp. Louisiana hot sauce
2 T. garlic, minced
1/4 c. onions, chopped
1/4 c. celery, chopped
3 sliced Alpine hot smoked sausages
(sausage may be substituted with meat/seafood of choice)
2 T. olive oil
1/2 c. tomatoes, chopped

In large skillet on medium high, heat olive oil and simmer onions, garlic and celery for 3 minutes. Add sprigs of oregano, thyme and bay leaves; allow to sweat. Add tomatoes and mix all dry seasonings, cook for 3 minutes, add in Worcestershire and hot sauce. Once fast boil begins, add pasta noodles and vegetable stock; reduce heat to simmer. Cover, skillet, stirring every 5 minutes until stock evaporates or noodles are tender. In a separate pan, cook sausage/or meat until done. Once pasta has finished cooking add meat. Serve in large bowl with a Renzo's Rosemary Shrimp skewer.

Advanced Transportation District – First of its Kind in Texas

By Joseph Marsilio, Special Projects Manager

If you live in San Antonio and voted in November 2004, you will recall a proposition to approve a 1/4-cent sales tax increase to authorize VIA Metropolitan Transit to create an Advanced Transportation District (ATD) within the City of San Antonio.

The proposition promised improvements in transportation services, streets, sidewalks and highways. Fifty-eight percent of voters approved and the first ATD in Texas came into being.

Just what does this new entity do? ATD provides a way to accelerate the pace of improvements by focusing more money on certain types of transportation projects. Most important to taxpayers, you won't find a big, new building on Loop 410 with "Advanced Transportation District" emblazoned over a set of shiny glass doors. ATD dedicates nearly all its funding to putting projects on the ground.

Revenue generated by the increased sales tax is divided among three recipients: 50% goes to VIA for transit improvements; 25% goes to the Texas Department of

Transportation (TxDOT) for highway infrastructure improvements; and 25% comes to the City of San Antonio for projects to improve transportation mobility. Mobility improvement serves to benefit transit riders, motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians.

The Public Works Department manages a special revenue fund into which the City's share of sales tax revenue – about \$9.5 million annually – is deposited. The City began receiving revenue in June 2005. Funds are invested just like other City revenue receipts until needed for projects.

Everything the City does in the ATD arena is accomplished through partnership – with VIA, TxDOT and Bexar County, and with the Mayor and City Council. The ATD capital budget is approved by City Council after Public Works staff receives each council member's concurrence with a list of projects proposed for ATD funding. The ATD capital program for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 totals \$9.8 million, slightly more than annual revenue because funds received during 2005 were added to those expected in 2006.

Examples of ATD projects funded from the City's portion of revenue include retiming traffic signals in the Central Business District to improve traffic flow; installing additional pedestrian signals with the countdown feature; allocating half of available funds in Fiscal Year 2005-2006 for sidewalk improvements; and providing bike lanes and markings along streets that connect to existing or planned bike facilities.

The engineering consultant firm, Lockwood, Andrews and Newnam, has been retained by the City to help staff work through the design and construction process that accompanies a capital program of this magnitude. The Public Works Department designated a special projects manager, Joseph Marsilio, to manage the ATD program for the City. If you have any questions or comments on ATD, please contact him at (210) 207-8665 or e-mail: jmarsilio@sanantonio.gov.



From I - R: ATD Project Examples

Signal Retiming, Video Imaging Vehicle Detection System, Emergency Vehicle Traffic Signal Preemption, and Sidewalks

Volunteers needed for upcoming ICMA Conference!

The San Antonio area will be hosting this year's International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Conference. ICMA is the professional and educational organization for chief appointed managers, administrators, and assistants in cities, towns, counties, and regional entities throughout the world. ICMA's mission is to create excellence in local government by developing and fostering professional local government management worldwide.

The San Antonio Host Committee has been directly tasked with providing volunteers for this event. Our current projections indicate we need to recruit between 100-150 volunteers to ensure sufficient coverage. Volunteers will be needed September 8 through September 13. Volunteering during the conference is a great way to meet and network with professionals in local government from across the United States and numerous other countries. You will also be allowed attendance to non-ticketed sessions during the day of your shift. Additional volunteer information and the actual volunteer application are attached. You are highly encouraged to take advantage of this valuable professional development opportunity.

Please contact Catherine Hernandez at <mailto:cjhernandez@sanantonio.gov> for more information.

Bowling

By Jerry McCaulley, Contract Officer



Left to Right: Armando Aguilar, Richard Martinez, Rosie Hernandez, Jerry McCaulley, & Monica Carpenter

The Citifest Bowling competition was held Saturday, July, 15, 2006. Richard Martinez, Rosie Hernandez, Monica Carpenter, Armando Aguilar and Jerry McCaulley represented the Department Of Public Works, Storm Water Operations Division. Although one member of the team did take a spill, fun was had by all.

Mens Handicap Series

2nd Place Richard Martinez (*Storm Water*)

Womens Handicap Game

3rd Place Monica Carpenter (*Storm Water*)

Softball - Way to GO EAGLES!



Depicted Left to Right: Top Row: Luis Maltos, Gilbert Garcia, Ernesto Ozuniga, Rodger Rivas, Bernard Murphy **Middle Row:** Eve Tobleman, Delia Augiunaga, Yvette Ozuniga, Genevieve Gomez, Estella Contreras, Anna Resendez, Sharon Robles, Hector Luna, **Bottom Row:** George Trevino, Edward Trevino, Sal Trevino, Jimmy Martinez **Not Pictured:** Christina De La Cruz, Paul Resendez, Amelia Garcia

The Eagles, a City League Co-ed softball team managed by Edward Trevino and sponsored by Jimmy Martinez of Alamo Golf Cars, enjoyed a fun, competitive, and victorious season.

Comprising the majority of the team are -our very own Public Works employees. The Eagles enjoyed their first season together, and came in 2nd place with a record of 7 wins and 2 losses----not bad for their first time around! Edward Trevino hopes to carry this team to victory at the annual City Sports-Fest representing the Public Works Department.

Special thanks to all who participated for all your hard work this season.

Great Northwest Branch Library Expansion



The Great Northwest Branch Library Expansion will provide for a 4,800 sq. ft. expansion increasing the total size of the Library to 17,052 sq. ft. The original library was constructed in 1995 and is located at 9050 Wellwood in Council District 6. The original design consisted of four modules for library stacks (shelving) with natural light monitors separating each library stack. The design was performed by

Lake Flato Architects and received local, state, and national design awards.

The new addition will include a new children's area, multi-purpose meeting room, restrooms, additional visitor and staff parking spaces, a new book drop area, modifications to the existing library, new built-up roofing on the existing library, landscaping improvements, and exterior signage along Grissom Road.

During the replacement of the existing carpeting, a new technology was used to move the existing library shelving without having to remove the books. Using this method we avoided delays in construction and limited the amount of labor needed by library staff to help perform this activity.

The Great Northwest Branch Library Expansion is designed by Gould Evans Architects and 3TI, Inc. is the General Contractor for the project. The Design Enhancement work performed by artist Twyla Arthur, features a ceramic tile mosaic on the floor that will symbolize a flowing river that leads you from the existing library into the new children's area.

Anticipated completion is September 2006.



San Antonio's Clean Air Status is in Jeopardy



During the first four months of the 2006 Ozone Season (April to October), the San Antonio area has received 12 Air Quality Health Alerts from the State warning us that pollution levels for those days could reach unhealthy levels. On June 13, 14, 28, and 29, ozone pollution rose to unhealthy concentrations. **Currently, the San Antonio area is in its second year of a three-year evaluation period that will determine whether local, voluntary efforts to improve air quality are successful. The San Antonio area has already exceeded the 85 parts per billion threshold established by the Federal government with a fourth highest eight-**

hour ozone average value of 87 parts per billion. In order for San Antonio to remain in attainment of federal air standards, an average of the fourth highest eight-hour ozone measurements from 2005, 2006, and 2007 must be less than 85 parts per billion. Why do we want to remain in attainment of federal air standards? If San Antonio is declared "non-attainment" there are various requirements and compliance measures that we will have to abide by. For example, all new major sources of air pollution (new business or industry) must comply with the best control technology and existing sources in order to receive a permit for a new facility. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Transportation cannot fund, authorize, or approve Federal actions to support programs or projects which are not first found to conform to the Clean Air Act requirements. Hike and bike facilities or HOV (high occupancy vehicle) lanes can be constructed with Federal dollars, but new roadway capacity may not be allowed. Remaining in attainment is good for business and good for our health.

Abigail Kinnison



Citizens can help reduce the emission of ozone-forming pollutants by utilizing alternative modes of transportation, waiting to refuel vehicles until after 6 p.m., postponing gas-powered lawn care until the evening, sharing rides, and properly maintaining their vehicle. For more information on ozone and the Federal government's standards, visit www.aacog.com/air or contact Brenda Williams (210) 362-5246. To receive air quality health alerts via e-mail, cell phone, or PDA, register at www.scanusa.com. For information on alternative modes of transportation, you may contact **Abigail Kinnison 207-3971.**

Hike and Bike

Budget Corner

In June 2006 City Council met to set Policy Goals & Services Delivery Priorities of City Services which are used as a guide in developing the FY 2007 Proposed Annual Operating and Capital Improvement Budget. Two City Services performed by the Public Works Department were ranked in the first category. The Office of Management & Budget directed Departments to develop Budget Proposal taking into account improving City (OMB) Services ranked in the first two categories and look for reductions that result in streamlining the Core Mission of the Department.

We prepared a Budget Proposal for the City Manager's review addressing the directives from the OMB as well as

areas the Department proposed to improve. The City Manager's review of our Budget Proposal went very well and was pleased with our Proposal. Thanks to all the Divisions for all their hard work on preparing our Proposal.

The next step is in the hands of the City Manager and the OMB. The OMB is preparing the Budget Proposal the City Manager will present to City Council on August 10, 2006. The remaining part of August will be Community Budget Hearing and City Council Work Sessions reviewing the Proposal and making changes. We are expecting August to be a busy time of answering questions and finalizing our Proposal so please be patient with us.

Maria Villagomez



The final Proposed Budget will be presented to City Council for approval on September 7, 2006 and then we can all rest until next year.

Budget Corner

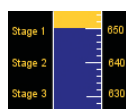
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 UNIVERSALDESIGN

Reduce Your Water Consumption



STAGE 1 RESTRICTIONS

Stage One Restrictions begin when the aquifer level drops to 650 feet mean sea level at the monitored well.

- **Water waste is prohibited at all times.** Water waste includes allowing water to run off into a gutter, ditch, or drain; or failing to repair a controllable leak.
- **You should reduce water consumption** by any means available.
- **All non-public swimming pools** must have a minimum of 25 percent of the surface area covered with evaporation screens when not in use. Inflatable pool toys or floating decorations may be used.
- **Hand watering** with a hand-held hose, soaker hose, drip irrigation, bucket or watering can is permitted any time and any day.
- **Washing impervious cover** such as parking lots, driveways, streets or sidewalks is prohibited. Health and safety exceptions to this rule may be requested from SAWS in writing.
- **Residential washing of vehicles** or other equipment is allowed only on assigned watering days and times. A hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle or bucket of five gallons or less may be used. Water should not be allowed to run into the street.
- **The use of commercial car wash facilities** is allowed any day.
- **Operators of golf courses, athletic fields and parks** must submit a conservation plan to SAWS. For submittal requirements operators should contact SAWS Conservation Department at 704-SAVE. Golf courses, athletic fields and parks may not irrigate between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- **Landscape areas on golf courses** not directly "in play" are required to follow one-day-per-week watering based on address unless otherwise instructed by SAWS.

- **Use of fountains, waterfalls,** or other aesthetic water features — outdoors or indoors — is prohibited.

The use of treated wastewater or recycled water is a defense to prosecution under these rules.

Stage One restrictions continue until there is an announcement in the newspaper that Stage One has been canceled or that Stage Two is in effect.

Landscape Watering

Watering with an irrigation system or sprinkler is allowed only once a week before 10 a.m. or after 8 p.m. on your designated watering day as determined by your address:

Last Digit of Street Address	Watering Day
0 or 1	Monday
2 or 3	Tuesday
4 or 5	Wednesday
6 or 7	Thursday
8 or 9	Friday
No watering on weekends	

For more information: <http://www.saws.org/conservation/aquifermgmt/stage1.shtml>